

~~What is claimed:~~

1. A method of delivering a selected DNA sequence to the central nervous system of a mammal comprising administering a neurotropic viral vector capable of infecting the central nervous system of a mammal, said vector containing a selected DNA sequence, said sequence being operatively linked to a selected promoter.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected promoter is the LAT promoter.

10 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected DNA sequence encodes β -glucuronidase.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected DNA sequence encodes tyrosine hydroxylase.

15 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the viral vector comprises an HSV vector.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the HSV vector comprises an HSV-1 strain.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the HSV-1 strain comprises strain 17.

20 8. A method of delivering a DNA sequence encoding β -glucuronidase to the brain of a mammal comprising administering an HSV-1 vector containing a DNA sequence encoding β -glucuronidase operatively linked to a LAT promoter.

25 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the HSV-1 vector comprises HSV-1 strain 17.

ABSTRACT

The invention provides a method of delivering a selected DNA sequence to the central nervous system of a mammal by administering to said mammal a neurotropic virus, said virus 5 containing a selected DNA sequence under the control of a promoter which permits expression of the DNA during the latent infectious state of the virus.